



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## **10\_22\_13 Minutes**

Park and Recreation Commission  
Minutes  
Tuesday, October 22, 2013 @ 7:00 PM  
Approved

The Park and Recreation Commission came to order at 7:00 PM on the first floor of the Arlington Senior Center on Tuesday, October 22, 2013.

Members in attendance included: Leslie Mayer, Shirley Canniff, Don Vitters, Jim Robillard and Peter Hedlund. Also in attendance was Director of Recreation Joseph Connelly. Elena Bartholomew and Jen Rothenberg were not in attendance.

Members from the public: Kevin Duffy, Karen Grossman and Amanda Kennedy

### **Friends of Robbins Farm - Dog Statue**

The Friends of Robbins Farm requested that this item be tabled.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The approval of the minutes of October 8, 2013 will be tabled until next meeting.

### **Open Forum – Public Comments**

No public comments.

### **Spy Pond Sculpture Proposal**

Mr. Kevin Duffy is proposing to carve an animal out of an existing boulder at the Spy Pond Park. The animal would be indigenous to Spy Pond. The Arlington Public Art Committee supports Mr. Duffy's proposal.

Mr. Duffy showed some examples of the sculpture. The carving of the boulder will take place at an off-site location. The sculpture will be a permanent sculpture. It will be maintenance free other than occasional cleaning.

Mr. Duffy has applied for a grant from the Cultural Council.

Mr. Connelly commented that Mr. Duffy would need to provide insurance, in addition to an indemnification agreement.

The Commission supports the concept and would like Mr. Duffy to come back to a future meeting with more details on the sculpture and to discuss placement.

Ms. Canniff motioned to approve the concept, seconded by Mr. Vitters and approved 4-0.

### **Discussion with Amanda Kennedy, Animal Patrol Officer**

Ms. Amanda Kennedy, the Animal Patrol Officer was in attendance. After a brief introduction to the Commission members, Ms. Kennedy stated that her presence in the parks will increase and more citations will be given. Ms. Kennedy is also looking into implementing a tiered system program which will include different color tags. Ms. Kennedy plans to meet with all of the Friends groups to introduce herself and discuss rules and regulations.

Mr. Connelly spoke of an incident at the Wellington Tennis Courts. The Court is being used as an off-leash area. Signage should be posted stating "No Dogs Allowed on Courts". Ms. Kennedy supports this and will enforce.

### **Capital Improvement Project Update**

**Florence Avenue Playground** – The playground is scheduled to open Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. The rubberized surface installation is scheduled for October 23<sup>rd</sup> in addition to a second coat of asphalt. The benches will be installed at a later date.

CBA will have some information on the design of the standardized signage at the next Commission meeting.

**North Union and Hibbert** – The Public Hearing for Hibbert took place on October 19, 2013. There was a good turnout, approximately 20 to 25 people with positive feedback.

The Public Hearing for North Union will take place at Thompson School on Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.

**ADA Study** – The ADA bid opening will take place on Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Capital Requests** – Mr. Connelly had a meeting with Capital. He stated that nothing in the Capital Plan will drastically change.

### **Special Requests**

*Friends of Waldo Park on October 31, 2013* – A request was received from the Friends of Waldo Park for a pre-trick or treat party. The Commission has no issues with this request. Ms. Caniff motioned to approve, seconded by Mr. Robillard and approved 4-0.

The Commission agreed that a fee for activities should be included on Special Request Forms. A suggestion was made to produce a checklist of bullet proof points stating what is allowed and what is not allowed. This checklist can be given to all Friends groups and PTO's.

### **Rink and Recreation Update**

The Commission discussed the Art in the Park event that will take place in the spring at Menotomy. Mr. Connelly stated that the quicker this process is defined and implemented the better. Mr. Connelly will do some research on what the policies and procedures are at the Forest Hill Cemetery on displaying public art and report back to the Commission.

### **Other**

Mr. Connelly is in the process of putting together a book which will include all policies. Mr. Connelly will distribute at the next Commission meeting.

Ms. Mayer and Mr. Vitters met with Kelly Connolly, landscape architect, at Spy Pond to discuss the loss in conservation wetland plantings. The meeting was very informative. Ms. Connolly had practical solutions for each area. A maintenance friendly plan will need to be implemented. A question was raised as to who will pay for this plan and what can volunteers and Friends of Spy Pond do to contribute.

Mr. Connelly attached the Gifts for Parks Donation Policy for review.

Ms. Mayer distributed a list of Arlington Friends Groups. Some of the groups are missing from the list.

Ms. Canniff motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Vitters and approved 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:  
Joseph Connelly, Director of Recreation